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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

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Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008200050001-5

Approved For Release 2003/02/27 : CIA-RDP79T00975A008200050001-5

5 March 1965

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Egypt-Germany: The future of Egyptian - West German relations remains unsettled, but Nasir is unlikely to recognize the East German regime now.

Egypt intends to implement a previous agreement to open a consulate general in East Berlin, and Nasir has accepted an invitation to visit East Germany some time in the future.

Nasir has stated that Egypt will recognize East Germany if Bonn goes through with its offer of financial compensation to Israel for arms not delivered [redacted] Thus far, the Israelis have refused the West German offer and insist on the arms. Attempts by Bonn to force a withdrawal of German missile technicians from Egypt probably would also result in an exchange of diplomatic representation between Cairo and Pankow.

In Bonn, ex-Chancellor Adenauer and ex-Defense Minister Strauss have put strong pressure on Chancellor Erhard to break with Nasir and recognize Israel, but the prevailing government attitude appears to be to maintain the status quo and attempt to improve relations with both Egypt and Israel over a period of time. [redacted]

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UK - West Germany: [Prime Minister Wilson's prospects for achieving British objectives in his talks with Chancellor Erhard next week are uncertain.]

[Among the issues likely to receive the most attention are the future of the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and British proposals for an Atlantic Nuclear Force (ANF).]

[There has been much public discussion in Britain of reducing the BAOR, but this is aimed primarily at getting Germany to increase its purchases to offset the estimated \$477 million it will cost Britain to maintain that army over the next two years. The British estimate that Bonn is now willing to put up only about 35 percent of the cost of the troops, which represents a considerable cutback from its previous financial support. Wilson will try to obtain a larger commitment.]

[The Germans are reluctant to buy British military equipment, both because Britain offers little that interests them and because the US also presses for sales large enough to offset its defense expenditures in Germany.]

[In proposing multilateral talks on an ANF, Wilson has been trying to show continued effort toward fulfilling his campaign pledge that Britain will contribute its independent nuclear capability to a Western force. He also wishes to forestall any moves toward European defense talks from which the British might be excluded.]

(continued)

The German Government does not intend to push for definitive action on Atlantic nuclear arrangements before the elections in September. There is no indication that the Germans feel the time is ripe for multilateral talks. The British also suspect Erhard may have given President De Gaulle a fairly explicit promise that no progress would be made on the ANF.

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